ONAAB Economic Opportunity Committee Meeting Minutes April 20, 2022 Foci for Recommendations

Licensing / Relicensing – Lead Susannah

Lack of data around what are the biggest needs for workforce

- Determine what are the top 10 industries in Virginia
- What are the top companies for the top industries
 - What do they estimate will be their biggest workforce needs in next 10 years?

Lack of data around what are the new American professionals in the Commonwealth

• Study to determine what new American top professions are both in VA and nationally.

Lack of knowledge about possible pathways to licensing / relicensing

- Work at the state level to develop 10 pathways to relicensing or close to relicensing.
- Determine pathways from other states to see if they can be replicated
- Talk with people in the industries to determine what the barriers are and what would be the possible solutions if there was money and other resources

Small Business Opportunities – Lead Djibril

Increase knowledge and opportunity within New American community to start small businesses

- SBA lacks capacity to conduct outreach to New Americans
- New Americans lack knowledge about how to start a small business in the US
- New Americans lack access to information and resources that already exist

Leverage foreign-born population to increase export/import opportunities with other countries

- Where are the largest foreign-born populations around the Commonwealth
- How can we leverage connections to other countries to conduct trade missions with other countries.
- Not only focus on urban but also rural.

Increase opportunities for micro-loans

Increase opportunities for independent contractors.

Bo is going to set up a meeting with Stephanie in the Governor's Commerce Department to see what they are interested in. Djibril will be first up to attend with Susannah as a back up.

Bo is going to send us information about...

Education about how to attract and retain immigrant workers

Example – ESL classes onsite